



# News Release

## IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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### **Water Supply Committee: 2006 Water Year Looks Good**

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Idaho snow packs continue to measure average or above average across the state. And colder temperatures and more wet weather in the coming weeks should delay runoff, while helping to build and sustain the snow packs well into spring. It means Idaho's reservoir systems are expected to fill and flood control measures are already being taken to make room for springtime runoff.

Members of the Idaho Water Supply Committee gathered today in Boise to share and review the latest weather and water data, and while members are encouraged, the committee continues to be "cautiously optimistic" about what it means for the overall drought cycle. They point to spring flows in the Snake River Canyon near Hagerman, which are expected to reach record low flows as evidence that the effects of six years of drought are still being felt.

River flows should provide plenty of recreational activities including the reawakening of one of Idaho's most scenic attractions – Shoshone Falls. Some water is already running over the falls but it is too early to tell how large the flows will be in the coming months.

The Water Supply Committee is made up of hydrologists and water experts both from the private and public sector. The Committee is scheduled to hold its next meeting on March 15, 2006 at 2 p.m. at the Idaho Water Center in Boise.

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